

Message Text

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SUBJ PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU REPORTS ON HIS EUROPEAN

VISIT: OPPOSITION CRITICAL OF GOC PRESENTATION TO EEC

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU REPORTED TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, OCTOBER 28, ON HIS VISIT TO FRANCE, BELGIUM, NATO AND EEC. IN PARIS, AGREEMENT WAS REACHED TO INCREASE AND DIVERSIFY CANADA'S VOLUME OF TRADE AND TO CONVENE A MEETING OF THE NEXT FRANCO-CANADIAN JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL. IN BRUSSELS, CANADIAN INITIATIVES WITH THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY WERE SUPPORTED BY THE BELGIUM AND LUXEMBOURG GOVERNMENTS. AT EEC, IT WAS AGREED THAT "A NEW PROCESS WOULD BE INITIATED INVOLVING CONCRETE STEPS TO STRENGTHEN LINKS" BETWEEN CANADA AND THE EEC. FINALLY, AT NATO, CANADA PROVIDED ASSURANCES THAT ITS COMMITMENT TO THE OTTAWA DECLARATION OF ATLANTIC PRINCIPLES REMAINED "UNIMPAIRED." OPPOSITION PARTIES CRITICIZED THE LATENESS OF THE VISIT TO EUROPE AND PRESSED FOR DETAILS OF THE PROPOSAL TO THE EEC. END SUMMARY.

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2. FRANCE. TRUDEAU ANNOUNCED AGREEMENT IN PARIS TO LAUNCH TWO BILATERAL WORKING GROUPS: THE FIRST TO CONCENTRATE ON EXAMINING TECHNOLOGICAL AND TRADE INVESTMENT POSSIBILITIES WITH RESPECT TO PETROLEUM, GAS, COAL AND NUCLEAR FUELS; THE SECOND, TO EXAMINE THE RATHER BROADER AREA OF TRADE POTENTIAL IN INDUSTRIAL SECTORS, CONCENTRATING ON THE TRANSPORTATION INDUSTRY. HE SAID EACH WORKING GROUP IS TO CONCLUDE ITS WORK IN TIME TO REPORT TO NEXT MEETING OF CANADA-FRANCE JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE TO BE HELD IN OTTAWA IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1975 WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE--FOR THE FIRST TIME --AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL. TRUDEAU ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT THE MINISTER OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE (GILLESPIE) WILL LEAD AN OFFICIAL TRADE MISSION OF CANADIAN BUSINESSMEN TO FRANCE IN 1975.

3. BELGIUM. COMMENTING ON HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH BELGIUM PRIME MINISTER TUBDENABS AND LUXEMBOURG PRIME MINISTER THORN, TRUDEAU SAID IT WAS AGREED THAT THE CRITICAL ELEMENTS OF THE PRESENT STATE OF THE WORLD ECONOMY--INFLATION, SLOW GROWTH, BALANCE OF PAYMENTS DEFICITS, RECYCLING, TRADE NEGOTIATIONS-- DEMANDED LIBERAL AND STATESMANLIKE ATTITUDES AS DISTINCT FROM CAUTIOUS AND PROTECTION-IST ONES. TRUDEAU NOTED THAT IN THIS RESPECT HE AND FINANCE MINISTER TURNER HAD NOW SOUGHT AND RECEIVED VIEWS AND UNDERSTANDING OF NO LESS THAN EIGHT PRIME MINISTERS AND PRESIDENTS IN LAST SIX WEEKS.

4. EEC. TRUDEAU TALKED ABOUT A GROWING AND MATURING EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND THAT THIS NEW EUROPE IS NOT THE SUM OF ITS NATIONAL PARTS. THE CANADIAN INITIATIVE, HE SAID, "IS NO LESS AND NO MORE THAN TO SEEK WAYS OF ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY IN A DYNAMIC, COOPERATIVE ENTERPRISE." HE SAID, "WE WISH TO ADD A NEW, YET PARALLEL DIMENSION TO THE EXPANDING LINKS WE ARE ALREADY BUILDING WITH OUR PARTNERS AMONG THE NINE-MEMBER STATES; A RELATIONSHIP WHICH WILL GROW AS THE COMMUNITY ITSELF MOVES FROM INFANCY THROUGH ADOLESCENCE TO FULL MATURITY; A RELATIONSHIP IN WHICH CANADA'S INTERESTS AND ITS SINGULAR IDENTITY ARE RECOGNIZED AND REFLECTED IN DECISIONS TAKEN; A RELATIONSHIP IN WHICH CONSULTATION AND RECIPROCAL ADVICE ARE ACCEPTED; A RELATIONSHIP OF MUTUAL RESPECTS, OF GIVE AND TAKE."

5. TRUDEAU SAID THAT IT WOULD BE IRRESPONSIBLE FOR CANADA "NOT TO SEEK A DISTINCTIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE NEW EUROPE"--WHICH UNCLASSIFIED

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ALREADY ACCOUNTS FOR 20 PERCENT OF WORLD TRADE--WHICH "WILL BE AN INCREASINGLY FORMIDABLE ACTOR ON THE WORLD STAGE: IN COMMERCE, IN SCIENCE, IN ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ACTIVITY, IN TECHNOLOGY AND MORE."

6. HE SAID CANADA'S GOAL WAS SHARED BY THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION. HE SAID "THERE WAS A SIGNIFICANT MEETING OF MINDS BOTH ON THE CONCEPT OF THIS NEW RELATIONSHIP AND ON THE INITIAL STEPS TO SET

THE PROCESS IN MOTION." TRUDEAU SAID THE PARTIES AGREED TO BEGIN EXPLORATORY TALKS ON THE NATURE AND SCOPE OF NEGOTIATIONS INTENDED TO DEFINE THE FORMAND CONTENT OF THE RELATIONSHIP. HE ANNOUNCED THAT COMMISSION PRESIDENT ORTOLI HAS AGREED TO VISIT OTTAWA AT AN EARLY DATE AND THAT A FULL EEC DELEGATION OFFICE WOULD BE OPENED IN OTTAWA IN 1975, OF THE SAME NATURE AS THOSE ALREADY OPERATING IN WASHINGTON AND TOKYO.

7. NATO. IN HIS FEW BRIEF SENTENCES ABOUT THE NATO VISIT, TRUDEAU SAID IT PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A FULL WORKING SESSION WITH THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL IN WHICH THERE WAS GENEROUS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION OF CANADA. HE REPORTED THAT HE WAS ABLE TO EXPLORE WITH THE PERMREPS THE CONCEPTS ENSHRINED IN THE OTTAWA DECLARATION OF ATLANTIC PRINCIPLES AND TO PROVIDE ASSURANCE THAT CANADIAN COMMITMENT TO THOSE PRINCIPLES REMAINED UNIMPAIRED. TRUDEAU SAID HE WAS ABLE TO EXPRESS CANADA'S DISTRESS THAT TWO NATO ALLIES SHOULD BE ENGAGED IN A DISPUTE WITH RESPECT TO CYPRUS, AND CANADA'S INTEREST IN SEEING AN EARLY AND PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THE CONFLICT ON THAT ISLAND, A CONFLICT WHICH HAS TAKEN TWO CANADIAN LIVES AND ENDANGERED MANY OTHERS.

8. OPPOSITION REACTION. BOTH THE LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION, ROBERT STANFIELD AND THE NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY'S (NDP) DOUGLAS PRESSED THE PRIME MINISTER TO PROVIDE DETAILS OF THE CANADIAN INITIATIVE WITH THE EEC. CONSERVATIVE PARTY LEADER STANFIELD SAID IT WAS UNFORTUNATE THAT CANADA'S GENERAL PRESENTATION, PARTICULARLY THAT CONCERNING THE EEC, WAS NOT AS THOROUGHLY PREPARED AS IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN. HE ACCUSED THE LIBERAL GOVERNMENT OF NEGLECTING EUROPE IN THE PAST AND EXPRESSED HIS DISAPPOINTMENT THAT THE PRIME MINISTER HAD NOT PROVIDED COMMONS WITH AN OPEN REVIEW OF THE GOC'S INTENTIONS TOWARD THE EEC. UNDER STANFIELD'S REPEATED QUESTIONS FOR MORE INFORMATION, TRUDEAU SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD PROBABLY PUBLISH THE AIDE MEMOIRE IT SENT THE EEC

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EARLIER IN THE YEAR, OUTLINGING THE GOC'S POSITION. THE NDP WAS PRIMARILY CONCERNED THAT CANADA MIGHT BE PREPARED TO ALLOW ITS RESOURCES TO BE USED AS A BAIT TO ATTRACT EUROPEAN INVESTMENT AND TO ENLARGE ITS TRADE OPPORTUNITIES BY TRADING THEM OFF AS A QUID PRO QUO. SAID DOUGLAS, "WE HAVE TRODDEN IT PARTICULARLY IN OUR RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES AND IT WILL BE NO LESS ABHORRENT IN OUR RELATIONS WITH EUROPE." FOR ITS PART, THE QUEBEC-BASED SOCIAL CREDIT PARTY WELCOMED THE RENEWAL OF FRIENDSHIP WITH FRANCE--SAID IT WAS IMPERATIVE THAT CANADA STEP UP CONTACTS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES "IN ORDER TO LAY THE OLD MYTH TO REST THAT WE MUST ALWAYS DEAL FIRST WITH A NORTH AMERICAN COUNTRY"--AND HOPED THAT CANADA'S CONTRIBUTION TO NATO WOULD NOT ONLY CONTINUE BUT BECOME LARGER.

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